

# Arizona Criminal Justice Commission



## Arizona Youth Survey 2010 Gambling Fact Sheet

Our mission is to sustain and enhance the coordination, cohesiveness, productivity and effectiveness of the criminal justice system in Arizona

July 2011

The Arizona Criminal Justice Commission (ACJC), in collaboration with the Governor's Office for Children, Youth, and Families, the Department of Health Services, and the Office of Problem Gambling, conducted the 2010 Arizona Youth Survey (AYS) to measure the prevalence and frequency of substance use by youth and the circumstances in which youth live. The 2010 survey was used to collect data from 372 schools and 63,784 students representing all 15 counties. For the past three administrations of the AYS, youth gambling questions were included in the survey at the request of the Office of Problem Gambling. This fact sheet provides a brief overview of the results of the gambling questions and their relationship to risk and protective factors, substance use, and antisocial behavior.

**Table 1: Characteristics of Respondents by Level of Gambling, 2010**

	Non Gamblers		Infrequent Gamblers		Frequent Gamblers	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
<b>Total Students</b>	15,857	25.5	26,419	42.5	19,890	32.0
<b>Grade</b>						
8	6,043	38.1	11,434	43.3	9,471	47.6
10	4,981	31.4	7,979	30.2	5,878	29.6
12	4,833	30.5	7,006	26.5	4,541	22.8
<b>Gender</b>						
Male	6,038	38.7	11,687	45.0	11,987	61.6
Female	9,568	61.3	14,288	55.0	7,476	38.4
<b>Race/Ethnicity</b>						
Asian—Non Hispanic	461	3.0	660	2.6	398	2.1
Hawaiian/Pacific Islander—Non Hispanic	104	0.7	146	0.6	115	0.6
American Indian—Non Hispanic	543	3.6	988	3.9	923	4.8
Black—Non Hispanic	523	3.4	824	3.2	696	3.6
White Only—Non Hispanic	7,899	52.0	11,528	45.4	7,295	38.2
Multi-Racial—Non Hispanic	624	4.1	1,078	4.2	776	4.1
Hispanic	5,041	33.2	10,175	40.1	8,897	46.6

In 2010, students could mark more than one race/ethnic category.

**Table 2: Gambling Questions by Grade and Year of AYS Administration, 2008-2010**

How often have you done the following for money, possessions, or anything of value: (At least once in the past 12 months)	8th Grade		10th Grade		12th Grade		Total	
	2008	2010	2008	2010	2008	2010	2008	2010
	Any Gambling	69.1	61.6	65.9	59.8	60.6	56.5	66.2
Played cards?	43.7	36.1	43.7	36.0	40.6	34.8	42.9	35.7
Bet on a game of personal skill such as pool or a video game?	32.7	28.2	31.3	27.7	27.0	24.9	31.0	27.2
Bet on sports?	31.8	28.6	30.2	27.0	25.6	24.4	29.9	27.0
Played a dice game?	31.5	26.0	25.1	21.9	19.2	17.9	26.7	22.6
Played bingo?	32.6	26.4	23.2	20.4	14.7	14.2	25.6	21.4
Played the lottery or scratch-off tickets?	24.8	21.4	21.8	20.7	19.0	18.9	22.5	20.6
Bought a raffle ticket?	20.4	15.9	20.7	16.6	18.9	15.3	20.1	16.0
Played a slot machine, poker machine or other gambling machine?	6.4	5.3	6.1	4.8	5.8	5.3	6.2	5.2
Bet on a horse or other animal race?	6.4	5.0	5.8	5.0	5.1	4.4	5.9	4.8
Gambling on the Internet?	6.3	5.1	5.1	4.6	4.7	4.2	5.6	4.7

### Gambling Behavior

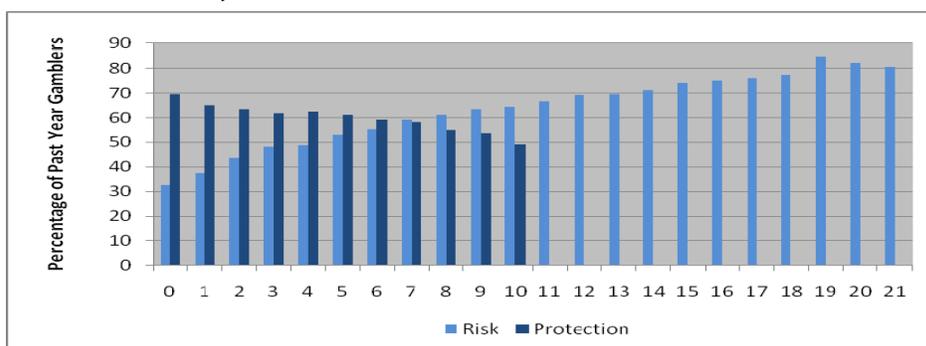
Table 1 describes the characteristics of students by type of gambling behavior. Infrequent gamblers are those who indicated they had gambled "Before, but not in the past year," or "At least once in the past 12 months," and frequent gamblers are those who responded that they had gambled "Once or twice a month," "Once or twice a week," or "Almost every day." Of the youth who responded to the gambling questions, 25.5 percent have never gambled, 42.5 percent were categorized as infrequent gamblers, and 32 percent were categorized as frequent gamblers.

The survey also allows for analyses of the type of gambling youth reported participating in during the previous 12 months (Table 2). The type of gambling that had the highest percentage of youth reporting participation in during the 12 months prior to the survey are playing cards, betting on games of skill, and betting on sports. These same data reveal that gambling by youth has decreased in every gambling category since the previous AYS administration in 2008.

### Risk and Protective Factors

The core of the Arizona Youth Survey is a set of questions based on a risk and protective factor prevention model. This model is based on research that has identified several risk and protective factors for delinquency and substance use. The 2010 AYS data reveals that as risk factors accumulate in youths' lives, the percentage of youth who report gambling in the past year also increases. Conversely, as protective factors accumulate, the percentage of youth who report gambling decreases (Chart 1).

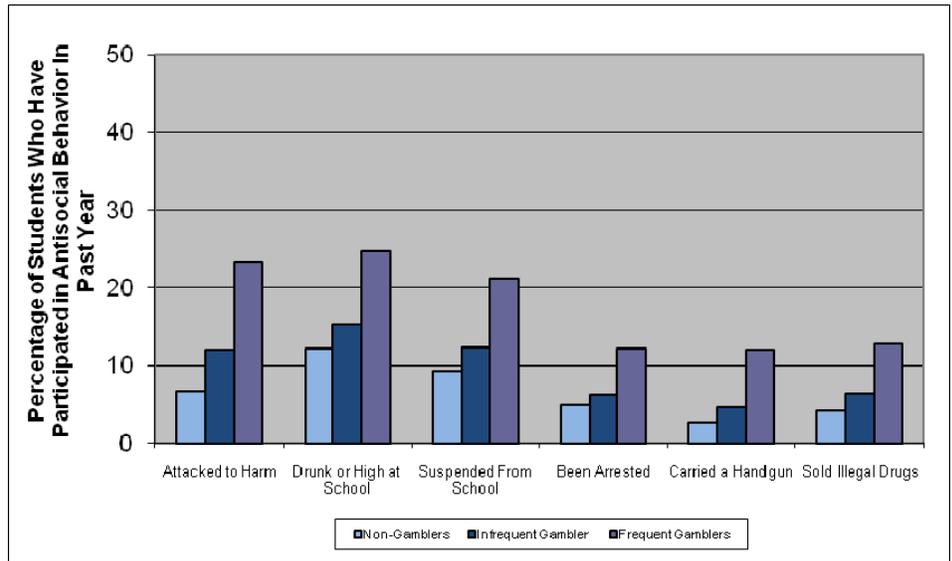
**Chart 1: Relationship Between Youth Gambling and Accumulated Risk and Protective Factors, 2010**



**Table 3: Substance Use by Type of Gambler, 2010**

	Non-Gamblers	Infrequent Gamblers	Frequent Gamblers
<b>Alcohol</b>			
Lifetime Use	43.9	58.5	69.3
30-Day Use	21.9	29.3	43.3
<b>Cigarettes</b>			
Lifetime Use	26.2	32.4	42.5
30-Day Use	11.3	12.8	19.9
<b>Chewing Tobacco</b>			
Lifetime Use	7	9.9	17.7
30-Day Use	2.7	3.9	8.5
<b>Marijuana</b>			
Lifetime Use	23.9	28.4	36.8
30-Day Use	11.3	13.3	19.5
<b>Hallucinogens</b>			
Lifetime Use	3.8	4.2	7.2
30-Day Use	1.2	1.2	2.5
<b>Cocaine</b>			
Lifetime Use	3.3	4.2	7.3
30-Day Use	.8	.9	2.5
<b>Inhalants</b>			
Lifetime Use	6.6	11.5	18.0
30-Day Use	1.5	3.1	6.3
<b>Methamphetamines</b>			
Lifetime Use	1.1	1.1	2.3
30-Day Use	.3	.2	.8
<b>Heroin</b>			
Lifetime Use	1.4	1.7	3.2
30-Day Use	.6	.6	1.2
<b>Ecstasy</b>			
Lifetime Use	5.3	5.8	9.9
30-Day Use	1.7	2	3.8
<b>Steroids</b>			
Lifetime Use	.7	1.3	3.1
30-Day Use	.2	.4	1.3
<b>Prescription Pain Relievers</b>			
Lifetime Use	10.4	15.9	23.2
30-Day Use	4.3	6.5	12.1
<b>Prescription Stimulants</b>			
Lifetime Use	3.9	5.1	7.9
30-Day Use	1.3	1.7	3.4
<b>Prescription Sedatives</b>			
Lifetime Use	6.9	10.6	14.1
30-Day Use	2.6	3.7	6.2
<b>Prescription Drugs</b>			
Lifetime Use	13.7	21.0	28.6
30-Day Use	6.2	9.2	15.4
<b>Over-the-Counter Drugs</b>			
Lifetime Use	7.0	10.9	16.9
30-Day Use	3.1	4.9	9.6

**Chart 2: Delinquent and Antisocial Behavior by Type of Gambler, 2010**



### Youth Gambling and Substance Use

This analysis reveals a correlation between the frequency of gambling (i.e., from non-gamblers to frequent gamblers) and substance use (Table 3). Youth who are more frequent gamblers also report using drugs at higher rates than less frequent gamblers. Consistent with the findings on substance use by youth more generally, the most commonly used drugs by youth who gamble are alcohol, cigarettes, marijuana, and prescription drugs.

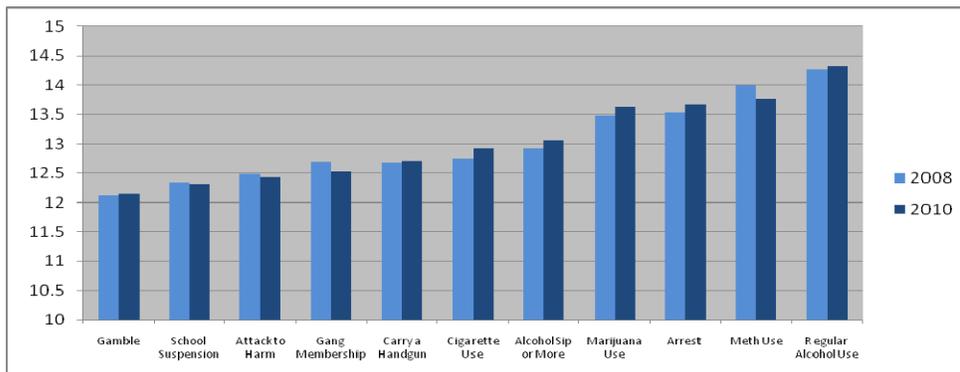
### Youth Gambling and Antisocial Behavior

The data also allows for an investigation of the relationship between frequency of gambling and participation in delinquent and anti-social behaviors (Chart 2). Similar to the relationship between gambling and substance use, frequent gamblers are more likely to report delinquent or antisocial behavior in the past year than other types of gamblers. For example, 23.3 percent of frequent gamblers report attacking someone with the intent of seriously hurting them in the 12 months prior to completing the survey, while only 6.7 percent of non-gamblers report attacking someone with the intent of seriously hurting them.

### Initiation of Youth Gambling

Beginning in 2008, youth are asked how old they were when they first gambled. The average age of initiation of gambling in 2010 was 12.1 years of age, with the majority of youth reporting that they began gambling at age 12 or younger. This has remained unchanged, from the average age being 12.1 years in 2008. In addition, youth were asked how old they were when they began using various substances and began participating in antisocial or delinquent behaviors, including being suspended from school, being arrested, and carrying a gun. Of all behaviors asked about, the average age of first gambling or betting was younger than the average age of first use (alcohol, tobacco, marijuana, or methamphetamine use) or first participation in any antisocial or delinquent behavior (Chart 3).

**Chart 3: Average Age of Initiation by Antisocial Behavior and Substance Use, 2008-2010**



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